

Juduser

From: Leanne Harpin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2022 9:53 AM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: HB 5349

Dear members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 5349, an act concerning the timely reporting by the police of a death. The untimely deaths of Lauren Smith-Fields and Brenda Lee Rawls and the apathy and insensitivity shown by the Bridgeport Police Department in failing to notify their loved ones made national news and brought up troubling issues about how missing people of color are treated by law enforcement agencies. Lauren's family only found out she had died when they visited her home and her landlord told them and Brenda's family had to find out through a neighbor. The police department treated both women as if they were "Jane Does" and made no effort to transparently investigate their untimely deaths.

This is completely unacceptable and demands accountability. The least we can do is make sure no other family is needlessly stuck in the dark like Lauren's and Brenda's families were.

Thank you for your time,

Leanne Harpin

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